



Youth and adults gather to talk strategies to reduce gun violence

## Milwaukee Youth Gun Survey

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Sponsored by:

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin - Project Ujima  
Community Advocates, Inc. - Milwaukee Brighter Futures  
Medical College of Wisconsin - Violence Prevention Initiative  
Milwaukee Health Department - Office of Violence Prevention  
UWM's Center for Urban Initiatives and Research

# Milwaukee Youth Guns and Gun Violence Survey

Preliminary Results 11/14/13

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# Survey Purpose

Identify Youth Perception and Experience

Inform and Catalyze Community Actions

Generate Recommendations

# Public Health Approach

- Primary Prevention Orientation
- Data-Driven
- Evidenced-Based

# Public Health Approach

- Collaborative
- Population-Based

# Scope of Problem

From January 1, 2013 to October 31, 2013:

71 Gun-Related Homicides (4 out of 5 of all Homicides)

456 Non-Fatal Shooting Victims (Half are age 24 or younger)

*Data from Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission*

# Impact on Youth (0-25 years)

In 2012, 44% of Homicide Victims and 70% of Homicide Suspects.

In 2011, 42% of Homicide Victims and 62% of Homicide Suspects.

*Data from Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission's 2012 Data Report  
(<http://city.milwaukee.gov/hrc/publications>)*

# Procedure

Develop Survey with Youth and Community Input

Get Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval

Engage Community-Based Organizations

Collected and Report Results

# About the Respondents

168 youth completed

9 Community-Based Organizations

Average age is 15.7 years

56% male

# About the Respondents

Race: 75% Black / African American

11% Hispanic / Latino

5% two or more races

3% Other

2% Native American

2% White / Caucasian

# Preliminary Results

Gun Violence is perceived to be a Serious Problem in Milwaukee.

- 80% - A serious problem
- 18% - Sometimes a problem

# Preliminary Results

Gun Violence is perceived NOT to be a Serious Problem in Respondents' Neighborhoods.

- 22% - Serious problem
- 31% - Sometimes a problem
- 30% - No problem at all

# Preliminary Results

Youth Feel Most At-risk for Gun Violence on the Streets.

- 74% - On the streets
- 12% - In parks or other public place

# Preliminary Results

Youth reported that Most Homes Do Not Have Guns.

- 57% - No
- 22% - Yes
- 20% - Don't know / not sure

# Preliminary Results

Youth reported that it is Easier for Other Youth to Get a Gun than for Themselves.

- 56% - Reported it would be difficult OR impossible for themselves to get a gun
- 26% - Reported it would be difficult OR impossible for other youth to get a gun

# Preliminary Results

Youth Perceive that Most Youth Get Guns from Purchase on the Street.

- 55% - Purchased “on the street”
- 23% - Stolen
- 19% - Borrowed from a family member, friend, or someone they know

# Preliminary Results

Youth Perceive that Most Youth Choose to Carry Guns for Protection or to “Show Off”.

- 54% - For protection against attacks by other people
- 42% - To “show off and impress their friends

# Preliminary Results

## Youth Experiences with Guns in the Last 12 Months

### Carrying a gun

- 50% - Seen another youth carrying a gun
- 9% - Have carried a gun themselves

### Threatened by a person with a gun

- 40% - Have seen someone get threatened with a gun to scare them
- 18% - Have been threatened themselves in person by a person with a gun

### Been shot at or shot

- 36% - Seen someone else get shot at or shot
- 15% - Have been shot at or shot

# Preliminary Results

A Majority of Youth are Affected by Gun Violence.

- 27% - Have at least one family member or friend who was shot
- 15% - Feeling a lack of safety or restricted freedom because of gun violence

# Current Limitations

Preliminary Results

Convenience Sample

Limited Data on Youth 13 Years and Under (13%)

# Next Steps

Goal of 500 responses by end of 2013

Engage additional community-based organizations

Continue to share results with public

# Discussion

What does this mean to you?

Questions?

# Contact

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